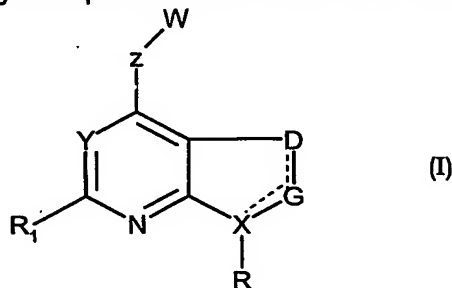


# Claims

1. Compounds of formula (I) including stereoisomers, prodrugs and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or solvates thereof



wherein

the dashed line may represent a double bond;

R is aryl or heteroaryl, each of which may be substituted by 1 to 4 groups J selected from:

halogen, C1-C6 alkyl, C1-C6 alkoxy, halo C1-C6 alkyl, C2-C6 alkenyl, C2-C6 alkynyl, halo C1-C6 alkoxy, -C(O)R<sub>2</sub>, nitro, hydroxy, -NR<sub>3</sub>R<sub>4</sub>, cyano or a group Z;

R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen, C3-C7 cycloalkyl, C1-C6 alkyl, C1-C6 alkoxy, C1-C6 thioalkyl, C2-C6 alkenyl, C2-C6 alkynyl, halo C1-C6 alkyl, halo C1-C6 alkoxy, halogen, NR<sub>3</sub>R<sub>4</sub> or cyano;

R<sub>2</sub> is a C1-C4 alkyl, -OR<sub>3</sub> or -NR<sub>3</sub>R<sub>4</sub>;

R<sub>3</sub> is hydrogen or C1-C6 alkyl;

R<sub>4</sub> is hydrogen or C1-C6 alkyl;

R<sub>5</sub> is a C1-C6 alkyl, halo C1-C6 alkyl, C1-C6 alkoxy, halo C1-C6 alkoxy, C3-C7 cycloalkyl, hydroxy, halogen, nitro, cyano, -NR<sub>3</sub>R<sub>4</sub>; -C(O)R<sub>2</sub>;

R<sub>6</sub> is a C1-C6 alkyl, halo C1-C6 alkyl, C1-C6 alkoxy, halo C1-C6 alkoxy, C3-C7 cycloalkyl, hydroxy, halogen, nitro, cyano, -NR<sub>3</sub>R<sub>4</sub>; -C(O)R<sub>2</sub>;

R<sub>7</sub> is hydrogen, C1-C6 alkyl, halogen or halo C1-C6 alkyl;

R<sub>8</sub> is hydrogen, C3-C7 cycloalkyl, C1-C6 alkyl, C2-C6 alkenyl, C2-C6 alkynyl, NR<sub>3</sub>R<sub>4</sub> or cyano;

R<sub>9</sub> is hydrogen, C3-C7 cycloalkyl, C1-C6 alkyl, C2-C6 alkenyl, C2-C6 alkynyl, NR<sub>3</sub>R<sub>4</sub> or cyano;

R<sub>10</sub> is hydrogen, C3-C7 cycloalkyl, C1-C6 alkyl, C2-C6 alkenyl, C2-C6 alkynyl, NR<sub>3</sub>R<sub>4</sub> or cyano;

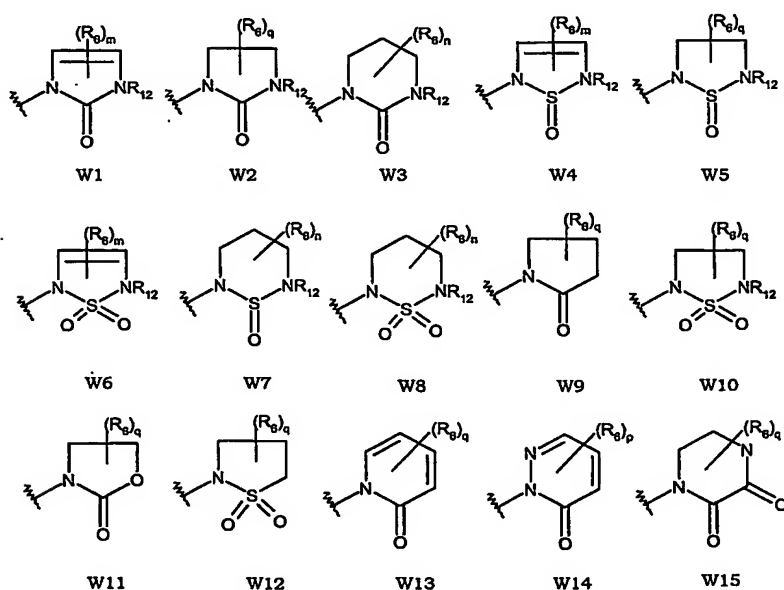
R<sub>11</sub> is hydrogen, C3-C7 cycloalkyl, C1-C6 alkyl, C2-C6 alkenyl, C2-C6 alkynyl, NR<sub>3</sub>R<sub>4</sub> or cyano;

R<sub>12</sub> is R<sub>3</sub> or -C(O)R<sub>2</sub>;

D is CR<sub>8</sub>R<sub>9</sub> or is CR<sub>8</sub> when double bonded with G;

- G is  $\text{CR}_{10}\text{R}_{11}$  or is  $\text{CR}_{10}$  when double bonded with D or is  $\text{CR}_{10}$  when double bonded with X when X is carbon;
- X is carbon or nitrogen;
- Y is nitrogen or  $-\text{CR}_7$ ;
- W is a 4-3 membered ring, which may be saturated or may contain one to three double bonds, and in which:
- one carbon atom is replaced by a carbonyl or  $\text{S}(\text{O})_m$ ; and
  - one to four carbon atoms may optionally be replaced by oxygen, nitrogen or  $\text{NR}_{12}$ ,  $\text{S}(\text{O})_m$ , carbonyl, and such ring may be further substituted by 1 to 8  $\text{R}_6$  groups;
- Z is a 5-6 membered heterocycle, which may be substituted by 1 to 8  $\text{R}_5$  groups or a phenyl ring, which may be substituted by 1 to 4  $\text{R}_5$  groups;
- m is an integer from 0 to 2.

2. Compounds according to claim 1, in which W is selected among the following groups:



in which:

W1 represents a 1,3-dihydro-2H-imidazol-2-one derivative;

W2 represents a imidazolidin-2-one derivative;

W3 represents a tetrahydropyrimidin-2(1H)-one derivative;

W4 represents a 2,5-dihydro-1,2,5-thiadiazole 1-oxide derivative;

W5 represents a 1,2,5-thiadiazolidine 1-oxide derivative;

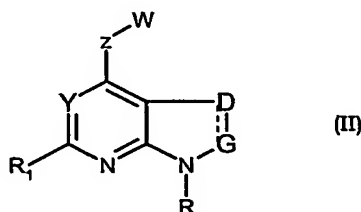
W6 represents a 2,5-dihydro-1,2,5-thiadiazole 1,1-dioxide derivative;

W7 represents a 1,2,6-thiadiazinane 1-oxide derivative;

W8 represents a 1,2,6-thiadiazinane 1,1-dioxide derivative;  
 W9 represents a pyrrolidin-2-one derivative;  
 W10 represents a 2,5-dihydro-1,2,5-thiadiazolidine 1,1-dioxide derivative;  
 W11 represents a 1,3-oxazolidin-2-one derivative;  
 W12 represents a isothiazolidine 1,1-dioxide derivative;  
 W13 represents a 2(1H)-pyridinone derivative;  
 W14 represents a 3(2H)-pyridazinone;  
 W15 represents a 2,3-piperazine-1-one derivative;  
 and

q is an integer from 0 to 4,  
 n is an integer from 0 to 6,  
 p is an integer from 0 to 3 and  
 m, R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>12</sub> are defined as in claim 1.

3. Compounds according to claim 1, having formula (II)



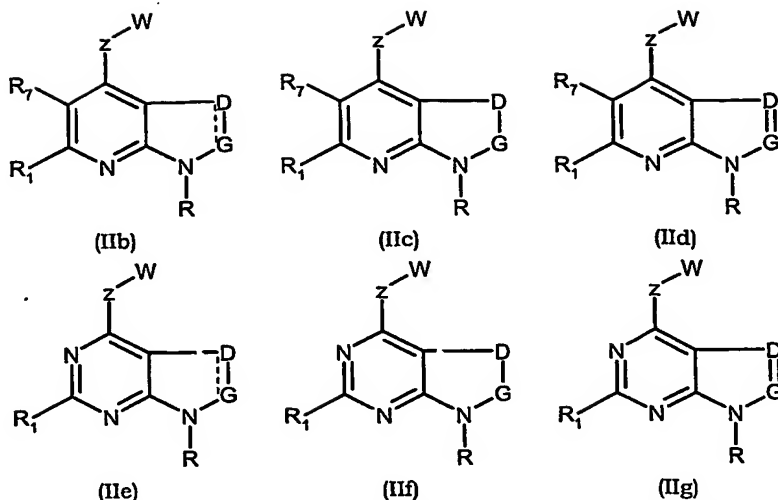
in which X is nitrogen or carbon and R, R<sub>1</sub>, Y, Z, W, D, and G have the meanings as defined in claim 1.

4. Compounds according to claim 3, of formula (II), in which W is selected in the group consisting from: W1, W2, W3, W9, W10, W11, W12, W13, and W14.

5. Compounds according to claim 3 of formula (II), in which Z is selected in the following group: pyrimidine, pyridine, thiazole, pyrazole, triazole and phenyl.

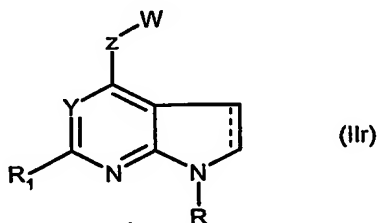
6. Compounds according to any of claims from 2 to 3 of formula (II), in which W is selected in the group consisting from: W1, W2, W3, W9, W10, W11, W12, W13 and W14 and in which Z is selected from the following heterocyclic groups: pyrimidine, pyridine, thiazole, pyrazole, triazole and phenyl.

7. Compounds according to any one from claim 1 to claim 6 of formula (IIb), (IIc), (IId), (IIe), (IIf), and (IIg)



where R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, Z, W, D, and G have the meanings as defined in claim 1.

- 5 8. Compounds according to claim 7 of formula (IIb), (IIc), (IIId), (IIe), (IIIf) and (IIg), in which W is selected in the group consisting from: W1, W2, W3, W9, W10, W11, W12, W13 and W14.
9. Compounds according to claims 7 and 8 of formula (IIb), (IIc), (IIId), (IIe), (IIIf) and (IIg), in which Z is selected in the group consisting from: pyrimidine, pyridine, thiazole, pyrazole, triazole and phenyl.
10. Compounds according to any of claims from 7 to 9 of formula (IIb), (IIc), (IIId), (IIe), (IIIf) and (IIg), in which W is selected in the group consisting from: W1, W2, W3, W9, W10, W11, W12, W13 and W14 and in which Z is a derivative of the following heterocyclic group: pyrimidine, pyridine, thiazol, pyrazol, triazol and phenyl.
11. Compounds according to claim 7 of formula (IIr), which correspond to the compounds of formula (II), where D and G are -CH<sub>2</sub>-.

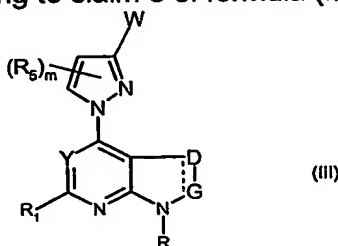


12. Compounds according to claim 11 of formula (IIr), in which W is selected in the group consisting from: W1, W2, W3, W9, W10, W11, W12, W13 and W14.

13. Compounds according to claims 11 and 12 of formula (IIr), in which Z is selected in the group consisting from: pyrimidine, pyridine, thiazol, pyrazol, triazol and phenyl.

5 14. Compounds according to any of claims from 11 to 13 of formula (IIr), in which W is selected in the group consisting from: W1, W2, W3, W9, W10, W11, W12, W13 and W14 and in which Z is selected in the group consisting from: pyrimidine, pyridine, thiazol, pyrazol, triazol and phenyl.

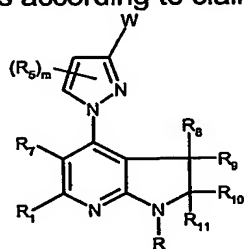
10 15. Compounds according to claim 3 of formula (III),



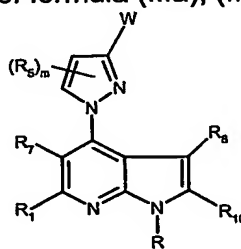
in which Z is a pyrazolyl derivative and R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, Y, W, D, m and G have the meanings as defined in claim 1 and the dashed line may represent a double bond.

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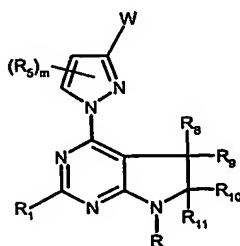
16. Compounds according to claim 15 of formula (IIIa), (IIIb), (IIIc) and (IIId),



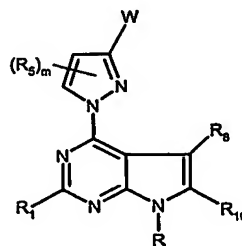
(IIIa)



(IIIb)



(IIIc)



(IIId)

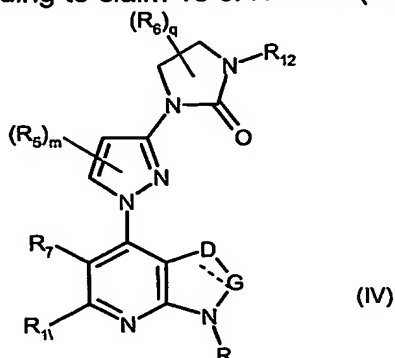
in which R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub>, R<sub>9</sub>, R<sub>10</sub>, R<sub>11</sub>, W, D, m and G have the meanings as defined in claim 1.

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17. Compounds according to claim 16 of formula (IIIa), (IIIb), (IIIc) and (IIId), in which W is selected in the group consisting from: W1, W2, W3, W9, W10,

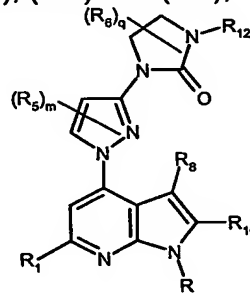
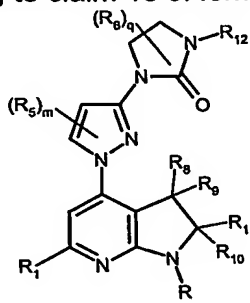
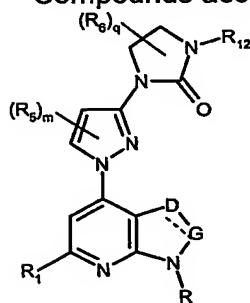
W11, W12, W13, W14 and R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub>, R<sub>9</sub>, R<sub>10</sub>, R<sub>11</sub>, and m have the meanings as defined in claim 1.

18. Compounds according to claim 15 of formula (IV),



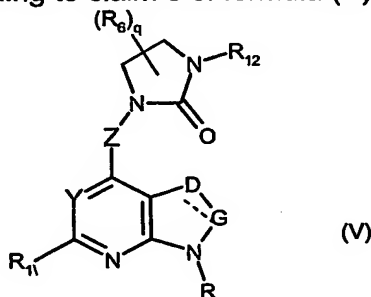
in which R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>12</sub>, m, q, D and G have the meanings as defined in claim 1 and 2 and the dashed line may represent a double bond.

19. Compounds according to claim 18 of formula (IVa), (IVb) and (IVc),



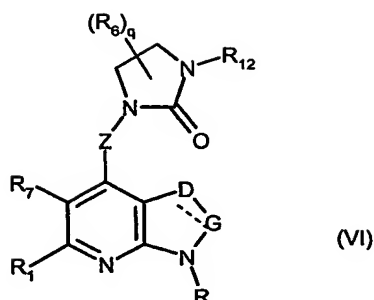
R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>12</sub>, m, q, D and G have the meanings as defined in claim 1 and the dashed line may represent a double bond.

20. Compounds according to claim 3 of formula (V),



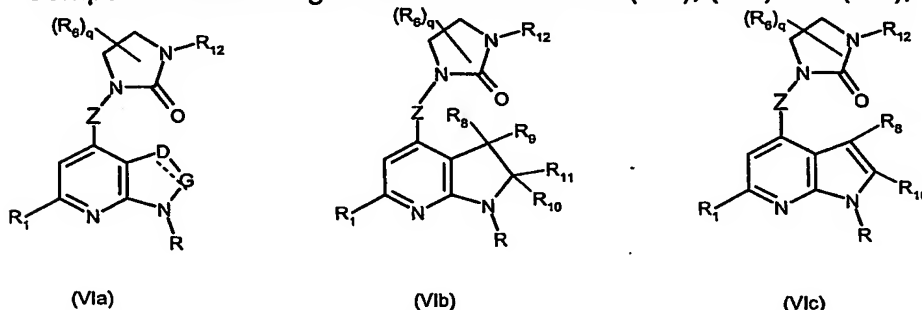
Z, R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, q, Y, W, D and G have the meanings as defined in claim 1 and 2, and the dashed line may represent a double bond.

21. Compounds according to claim 20 of formula (VI),



in which Z, R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, q, Y, W, D and G have the meanings as defined in claim 1 and 2, and the dashed line may represent a double bond.

- 5 22. Compounds according to claim 21 of formula (VIa), (VIb) and (VIc),



in which R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>8</sub>, R<sub>9</sub>, R<sub>10</sub>, R<sub>11</sub>, R<sub>12</sub>, q, D and G have the meanings as defined in claim 1 and 2 and the dashed line may represent a double bond.

- 10 23. Compounds according to claim 22 of formula (VIa), (VIb) and (VIc), in which Z is selected in the group consisting from: pyrimidine, pyridine, thiazol, pyrazol, triazol and phenyl and R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>8</sub>, R<sub>9</sub>, R<sub>10</sub>, R<sub>11</sub>, R<sub>12</sub>, q, D and G have the meanings as defined in claim 1 and 2.

- 15 24. Compounds according to any of claims from 1 to 23 of formula (I), (IIb), (IIc), (IIId), (IIe), (IIIf), (IIg), (IIr), (III), (IIIa), (IIIb), (IIIc), (IIId), (IV), (IVa), (IVb), (IVc), (V), (VI), (VIa), (VIb), (VIc), wherein:

R<sub>1</sub> is C1-C3 alkyl group or halo C1-C3 alkyl group,

R<sub>7</sub> is hydrogen;

- 20 R<sub>8</sub>, (R<sub>9</sub>), R<sub>10</sub>, (R<sub>11</sub>) are hydrogen;

R is an aryl group selected from: 2,4-dichlorophenyl, 2-chloro-4-methylphenyl, 2-chloro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl, 2,4,5-trimethylphenyl, 2,4-dimethylphenyl, 2-methyl-4-methoxyphenyl, 2-methyl-4-ethoxyphenyl, 2-methyl-4-isopropoxyphenyl, 2-methyl-4-hydroxyphenyl, 2-methyl-4-chlorophenyl, 2-methyl-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 2-methoxy-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-methoxy-4-chlorophenyl, 3-methoxy-4-chlorophenyl, 2,5-dimethoxy-4-chlorophenyl, 2-methoxy-4-isopropylphenyl, 2-methoxy-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-methoxy-4-

isopropylphenyl, 2-methoxy-4-methylphenyl, 2-trifluoromethyl-4-chlorophenyl, 2,4-bis-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-trifluoromethyl-4-methylphenyl, 2-trifluoromethyl-4-methoxyphenyl, 2-difluoromethyl-4-methoxyphenyl, 2-bromo-4-isopropylphenyl, 2-methyl-4-cyanophenyl, 2-chloro-4-cyanophenyl, 2-trifluoromethyl-4-cyanophenyl, 2-trifluoromethoxy-4-cyanophenyl, 2-ethyl-4-cyanophenyl, 2-methyl-4-trifluoromethoxyphenyl, 4-methyl-6-dimethylaminopyridin-3-yl, 2,6-bismethoxy-pyridin-3-yl, 2-methyl-6-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl, 2-trifluoromethyl-6-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl, 3-chloro-5-trichloromethyl-pyridin-2-yl, 2-methyl-4-(pyrazol-1-yl)-phenyl, 2-methoxy-4-(pyrazol-1-yl)-phenyl, 2,4,6-trimethoxyphenyl, 2-methyl-4,5-benzodioxolyl, 2-methyl-3,4-benzodioxolyl.

25. Compounds of formula (I), (IIb), (IIc), (IId), (IIe), (IIf), (IIg), (III), (IIIa), (IIIb), (IIIc), (IIId), (IV), (IVa), (IVb), (IVc), (V), (VI), (VIa), (VIb), (VIc), according to any of claims from 1 to 24 selected in the group consisting from:
- 1-{1-[1-(4-Methoxy-2-methylphenyl)-6-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl]-1H-pyrazol-3-yl}imidazolidin-2-one (compound 1-1);
- 1-{1-[1-(4-Methoxy-2-methylphenyl)-6-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl]-1H-pyrazol-3-yl}-3-methylimidazolidin-2-one (compound 1-2);
- 1-{1-[1-(2,4-Dichlorophenyl)-6-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl]-1H-pyrazol-3-yl}imidazolidin-2-one (compound 1-3);
- 1-(1-{1-[2,4-Bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-6-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl]-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-4);
- 1-{1-[1-(4-Hydroxy-2-methylphenyl)-6-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl]-1H-pyrazol-3-yl}-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-5);
- 1-Acetyl-3-(1-{6-methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl]-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-5);
- 1-Acetyl-3-(1-{6-methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl]-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-6);
- 1-(1-{1-[4-(Ethyloxy)-2-methylphenyl]-6-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl]-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-7);
- 1-[1-(6-Methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-[(1-methylethyl)oxy]phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl)-1H-pyrazol-3-yl]-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-8);
- 1-[1-(6-Methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-[(trifluoromethyl)oxy]phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl)-1H-pyrazol-3-yl]-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-9);
- 3-Methyl-4-{6-methyl-4-[3-(2-oxo-1-imidazolidinyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-1-yl}benzonitrile (compound 1-10);
- 1-(1-{6-Methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl]-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-11);
- 4-{6-Methyl-4-[3-(2-oxo-1-imidazolidinyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-1-yl}-3-(trifluoromethyl)benzonitrile (compound 1-12);



- 1-(1-{1-[2-(Difluoromethyl)-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-6-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl}-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-13);
- 5 4-{6-Methyl-4-[3-(2-oxo-1-imidazolidinyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-1-yl}-3-[(trifluoromethyl)oxy]benzonitrile (compound 1-14);
- 3-Ethyl-4-{6-methyl-4-[3-(2-oxo-1-imidazolidinyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-1-yl}benzonitrile (compound 1-15);
- 10 1-(1-{6-Methyl-1-[2-(methyloxy)-4-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl}-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-16);
- 1-{1-[6-Methyl-1-(6-methyl-1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl]-1H-pyrazol-3-yl}-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-17);
- 15 1-(1-{6-Methyl-1-[2,4,6-tris(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl]-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-18);
- 1-{1-[6-Methyl-1-(6-methyl-1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl]-1H-pyrazol-3-yl}-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-19);
- 1-(6-{6-Methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl}-2-pyridinyl)-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-20);
- 20 1-(4-{6-Methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl}-2-pyrimidinyl)-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-21);
- 1-(2-{6-Methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl}-4-pyrimidinyl)-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-22);
- 1-(1-{6-Methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl}-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-23);
- 25 1-(1-{2,6-Dimethyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl}-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-24);
- 1-(3-{6-Methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl}phenyl)-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-25);
- 30 1-(5-Methyl-1-{6-methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl}-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-26);
- 1-[1-(1-{4-[(difluoromethyl)oxy]-2-methylphenyl}-6-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl)-1H-pyrazol-3-yl]-2-imidazolidinone (compound 1-27);
- 35 1-{1-[1-(4-Methoxy-2-methylphenyl)-6-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl]-1H-pyrazol-3-yl}pyrrolidin-2-one (compound 2-1);
- 1-{1-[1-(4-Methoxy-2-methylphenyl)-6-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl]-1H-pyrazol-3-yl}tetrahydropyrimidin-2(1H)-one (compound 3-1);
- 40 3-(1-{6-Methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl}-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one (compound 4-1);

Methyl 5-(1-{6-methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl}-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-1,2,5-thiadiazolidine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide) (compound 5-1);

4-[3-(1,1-Dioxido-1,2,5-thiadiazolidin-2-yl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]-6-methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine (compound 5-2).

4-[3-(1,1-Dioxido-2-isothiazolidinyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]-6-methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine (compound 6-1);

3-Methyl-1-(1-{6-methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl}-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-2(1H)-pyridinone (compound 7-1);

2-(1-{6-Methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl}-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-3(2H)-pyridazinone (compound 8-1);

1-(1-{6-Methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl}-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-1,3-dihydro-2H-imidazol-2-one (compound 9-1);

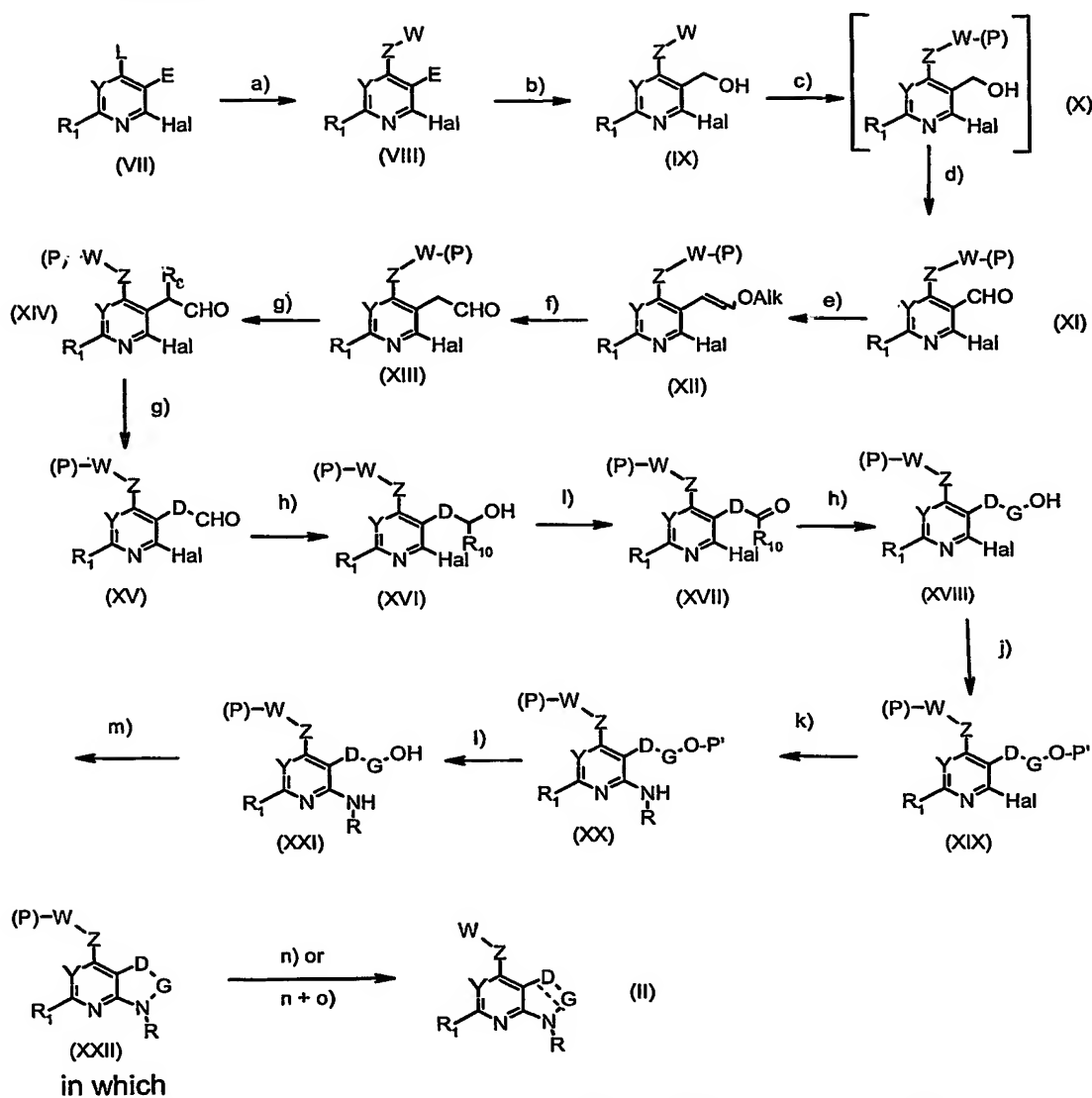
1-(1-{6-Methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl}-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-2-imidazolidinone (compound 10-1);

1-(6-{6-Methyl-1-[2-methyl-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl}-3-pyridinyl)-2-imidazolidinone (compound 11-1);

1-{1-[7-(2,4-Dichlorophenyl)-2-methyl-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidin-4-yl]-1H-pyrazol-3-yl}-2-pyrrolidinone (compound 11-2).

26. Process for the preparation of the compounds of formula (II), starting from compounds of formula (VII), comprising the following steps as in Scheme 1:

Scheme 1



- step a stands for conversion of the leaving group L, selected in a group consisting from: halogen or reactive residue of sulphonic acid (e.g. mesylate, tosylate), preferably chloride, in the compounds (VIII), by reaction with the suitable Z-W derivative;
- step b stands for reduction of the ester group (E) with a suitable reducing agent (such as DIBAL-H) to hydroxy group of compounds (IX);
- step c stands for suitable protection of an NH group eventually present in W group with a P group, such as a p-methoxybenzyl group;
- step d stands for oxidation of the hydroxy group with a suitable oxidizing agent (such as Dess-Martin periodinane) to the aldehyde group of compounds (XI);

- steps e + f stands for formation of the aldehyde group of compounds (XIII) by Wittig reaction in the usual conditions, through formation of enol ether followed by acid hydrolysis (step f);
- 5 step g stands for the optional alkylation of the  $\alpha$  position of the aldehyde by deprotonation with a suitable base (such as  $\text{LiN}(\text{SiMe}_3)_2$ ), followed by the addition of a suitable alkylating agent (such as MeI) to form the alkylated aldehyde of compounds (XIV), (XV);
- 10 step h stands for the conversion of the aldehyde group group by a Grignard reagent (such as  $\text{MeMgBr}$ ) into an alcohol group of compounds (XVI) and (XVIII);
- step i stands for oxidation of the hydroxy group with a suitable oxidizing agent (such as Dess-Martin periodinane) to the ketone group of compounds (XVII);
- 15 step j stands for conversion of the hydroxy group in the suitable protecting group of compounds (XIX) (such as TBS: tert-butyldimethylsilyl);
- step k stands for a Buchwald coupling reaction with the suitable amine  $\text{RNH}_2$  to give the compounds of formula (XX);
- 20 step l stands for the deprotection reaction to give the hydroxy group of compounds (XXI);
- step m stands for intramolecular cyclisation after conversion of the hydroxy group of compounds (XXI) in a suitable leaving group (such as bromide, by reaction with  $\text{CBr}_4$  and  $\text{PPh}_3$ ) to give the cyclized compounds (XXII);
- 25 step n stands for the deprotection reaction of the protected NH group eventually present in W group, to give final compounds (II);
- step o stands for oxidation by a suitable oxidating agent (such as DDQ) in order to give formation of the double bond of compounds (II), when D is  $\text{CHR}_8$  and G is  $\text{CHR}_{10}$ .
- 30 27. The use of a compound according to any of claims from 1 to 25, in the preparation of a medicament for use in the treatment of conditions mediated by CRF (corticotropin-releasing factor).
- 35 28. The use of a compound according to claim 27, in the preparation of a medicament for use in the treatment of depression and anxiety.
29. The use of a compound according to claim 27, in the preparation of a medicament for use in the treatment of IBS (irritable bowel disease) and IBD
- 40 (inflammatory bowel disease).

30. A compound according to any of claims from 1 to 25, for use in the treatment of conditions mediated by CRF (corticotropin-releasing factor).
- 5 31. A compound according to claim 30, for use in the treatment of depression and anxiety.
32. A compound according to claim 30, for use in the treatment of IBS (irritable bowel disease) and IBD (inflammatory bowel disease).
- 10 33. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any of claims from 1 to 25, in admixture with one or more physiologically acceptable carriers or excipients.
- 15 34. A method for the treatment of a mammal, including man, in particular in the treatment of conditions mediated by CRF (corticotropin-releasing factor), comprising administration of an effective amount of a compound according to any of claims from 1 to 25.
- 20 35. A method, according to claim 34, in the treatment of depression and anxiety, comprising administration of an effective amount of a compound according to any of claims 1 to 25.
- 25 36. A method, according to claim 34, in the treatment of IBS (irritable bowel disease) and IBD (inflammatory bowel disease), comprising administration of an effective amount of a compound according to any of claims 1 to 25.